## THE GIRL'S FIRST PROBLEM.

SELECT OF A TOUNG WOMAN FOR A CONGENIAL ROOMMATE.

Things the Other Girls Said, Did and Omitted to Do-Lecture for the Benefit of Her Latest Experiment-A Philosopher and a Girl in Love-Need of Talent. As a class," said the girl who was putting up on cortains. 'I detest roommates. Have you ever known a girl who was your roommate with whom you did not have to make an heroid effort to keep from fussing at the end of

f you talked to them all like that," remarked the girl who was the new experiment in roomsales of suppose you fused at the dusk of the

From the window-sill where she was balanced while the step-ladder stood idly by, the other girl laughed the nice little laugh that made you

I have been in New York," she said, "earning my daily bread and what hansoms I could for four or five years. And you are the seventh girl have tried to hit it off with so as not to have to take a hall bed room. Well, I have seven good frends out of the seven-but thank Heaven I unexperimented upon."

The girl with the hat with the ties, whose admi-

ration for professional women was her sole characterisue beside her many rings, sat as visitor looking on in mute appreciation of the household arrangements in progress.
"But" she said, "the soven were all women in-

terested in something, weren't they? Music or art students, newspaper women, teachers of language, think how much you must have had the evening when, tired after a long day"-

When, tired after a long day," the curtain gui took up the refrain, "I used to come home to get tired all over again with a long evening of with, and find the couch cushions all shaken up and the alcohol lamp being filled and three people invited for that evening to share my roommate's h spitality Dream of comfort, would that be!"

I can't afford an alcohol lamp," murmured the new roommate, "and I am in many ways

But all that would only be once in a while anyobjected the girl in the hat.

You are right," assented the one of seven ex-"Other times she would want a grate fire when I was positively stewing, or she would three open the windows and let in the noise of the elevated trains till I went to pieces. She would fail to buy matches when it was her turn. She would read my paper and never buy one of her own. She would never bring home fruit or candy. And above all, she would let me get well in the middle of an involved sentence on the typewriter, and then break out with: 'Dear, what sould you think a man meant if he were to say to you, just naturally you know, as if it had just eccutred to him' --- and so on, ad insanitandum. All these were different girls, mind you. But most of them agreed in getting to the pitcher first, when the bathroom wasn't on our floor, and using up all the water. Then there was the borrowing-letter-paper, stamps, hairpins, hat pins, money -ob," said the girl at the curtains, "you can't tell me anything about room-

The new experiment sat down on the end of the lounge, and voiced her dejection: "Do you think bonestly," she wailed, "that I am going to do one, or all these things? And I was just ready to ask you for a clean handkerchief. You see, my laun-

Handkerchiefs" said the curtain girl briskly. "you'll find them in the top drawer of the chiffonier; to there! Help yourself. Haven't you had

## TRUFFLES AND MUSHROOMS.

Methods by Which he Two Delicacies May Be Had at Their Best.

Mushrooms and truffles to be eaten in perfection should be fresh. The aroma of both is so evanescent that those who cannot eat them as soon as they are lifted from the ground are deprived of the enjoyment that imparts special zeat to both. In these days rapidity of transportation makes it possible for dwellers in localities distant from places where these fungi are grown to procure them in a condition in which they retain all of their aromatic characteristics.

It is only those whose sense of taste is blunted through excessive use of tobacco or of spirits who cannot appreciate the particular savor of mushrooms or of trufflers. To those it makes no difference whether they are fresh or stale. Mushrooms artificially cultivated are so inferior in flavor to those found in the fields as to eliminate all hesitation as to the choice beween the two. The first are suitable only for decorative cooking, while in the second this quality is absent, and they are intended solely to be treated as an aliment that responds as readily to the simplest as it does to the most elaborate culinary efforts. There are two stages in the growth of mushrooms, when they are on the button and when they are fully open and peret tried to go to Europe with any one of them, the spore bearing ridges form a rosy lining to the expanded top. In either condition they should be firm and plump, and never used when the ridges are black; not that they are poisonous when in that condition, but they then possess a quality that sometimes leads to gastric derangements; moreover the flavor deteriorates when in that state. For a ragout the fully expanded mushroom is the better; to be served as a distinet dish those in the button are preferable in asmuch as they contain less water.

The drought of last summer followed as it has een by several soaking rains, has made the au tumn exceptionally profife in mushrooms. In the country old pastures and lawns are covered with them, and they will continue until the ground is hardened by frost The American mushroon s the French champignon. There is another variety called the managerou which in Europe grows on the moss, and possesses a very much more aromatic and delicate flavor than Agaricus competitis the botanical name of the American species. The Italians dry monascrous, which in the dessicated state and powdered they call found This is employed mainleight ragous to which it imparts a very agreeable flavor. Fught can be found in some of the delicatessor shops in the Italian quarter of New York. This is the incredent that gives special savor to certain dishes served at Italian tables of hote. There is another of the mushroom family, neglected totally here, which has qualities superior to either the champing not or monseron. This is what the French call elega, or the esculent bolicas. It is very common in American woods in May and June and in the autumn. It is a very large and firm fleshed sort and for cooking better than any other. It is not safe, however, for any but an expert to use it, as it is difficult to distinguish it from peasonous varieties of similar appearance that grow in the same environment.

There are many ways of cooking mushrooms a la Ragnal, a la Dumas, a la Riviera and stuffed, in cases, with Madeira wine. These however, come within the scope of the houte cone of the cutsine and are impossible except at the hands of a highly trained cook whose material resources are practically limitess. For orinary flower. more aromatic and delicate flavor than Agaricus

however, come within the scope of the house ear e of the cuisine and are impossible except at the hands of a highly trained cook whose material resources are practically limitees. For ordinary house mode a simple recipe almost universally employed in French bourgeois kitchens is entirely complete and satisfactory. It is called cruite our churry pignons. The mushrooms are peeled, washed and dried. They are then put in a stewpan with a lump of butter and piaced upon a brisk fire until the butter is melted. The stewpan is then withinfant and the juice of a lemon is added. The mushrooms are returned to the fire with the addition of peppers, spices, sait and a tablespeonful of water in which a clove of garde cut in four pieces face been immersed for half an hour. When the music rooms are cooked a larges of the voiks of three eggs well beaten un is added and they are served on bread fried in butter.

Truffles are called by the French the Sacrom sacrorum of epicures. Dumas says that the history of truffles is an account of the civilization of the world. This is union enclusives and the interest of this fungus contains an excess of weeks false which constitutes its schidity and at the same time its inferiority when contrasted with the tenderness of the mushroom. The aroma of truffles, which is they predominant ment quick by disapates. Therefore, those used generally in this country are of hitles or no culmary value when prepared on a dist of which they are size.

TOYS THAT WOMEN MAKE.

A BOUNDLESS FIELD OPEN FOR INGENUITY AND INDUSTRY.

Many Passing Novelties of the Hour Turaed Out by Women—The Country's Demand for Ingenious Trifles—Wide Employment of Women and Girls in Toy Making.

The toy husiness covers more and more ground avery year and women are taking an active part in all departments of it. A considerable proportion of the games and novelty puzzles brought things in the housekeeper's world, such as carpet sweepers, washing and ironing apparatus, up noistery patterns and the like, to a child's size and convenience, and a goodly share of the surprise knick knacks and fun-makers soid on the street are got up by women. The newsdealers throughout the country are owned and run by women, who are peculiarly successful in disposing of the novelities now regularly included in a largest that a part of the properties of the novelities now regularly included in a largest that a part of the properties of the novelities now regularly included in a largest of the letter chance of custom and folk-lore suggestions illustrated in needle work for Christmas tree fittings. The more novel the novelities now regularly included in a largest and any or the properties of the surprise knick knacks and fun-makers soid on the street are got up by women. The newsdealers work for Christmas tree fittings. The more novel and maker never had a better chance of custom and research and a more liberal patronage to cater to than a trees. women, who are peculiarly successful in disposing of the novelties now regularly included in a

To the uninitiated person accustomed to judge of a business by the name it bears, the nature and the quantity of specialty goods kept in stock by a news company are surprising. In up todateness and a certain immediate interest, they may have some relation to news, but in no other way. For the most part these toy novelties are as tawdry, gay-colored and trifling as might be looked for at a Christmas counter. But the demand for them is not influenced by Santa Claus's visits. They are standard goods ordered as regularly in June as December and sold at all the little village stores and school supply shops in the country. From the shops up in Maine or Canada, where the legging camp and lumber mill workmen come for goods, to the way stations down South where the turpentine farm hands and timber cutters get their work tickets, these toy novelties are popular. The provision factors ... I dealers in tanchmen's supplies out West get the v to liven up a showcase and set off the smoker's goods and drug simples that are the lighter part of the stock. The factory towns and mining camps along the stage routes want them and the towns in the plain every day farming country here at home. In fact, of all the goods classed as tancy that go out of New York to various conditions of people, these little things would be most missed if the supply should suddenly

On the shelves and in the big packing cases of any news company are toys and jumping-jacks gimeracks for both little and grown people, that are as old and stale in pattern as the wooden Noah's Ark trees, stiff and badly glued. But ing fun. New little articles for personal convenience, surprise cigarette boxes, catch word perfume holders, knick knacks for the wardobe and the sewing basket. They are all ingenious, attractive and cheap and woman's happy intui tion has been at the bottom of many. Along with the rest are dancing sailors and climbing squirrels, backing donkeys, funny faced balloons ing power and odd conceits in pinchbeck lewelry Women have helped at them all, even if in nomore than gluing the bridle and saddle cloth on to the hide of the composition donkeys, paint ing the red ringed bandle of the mouth blowers, or fastening in the directions for the curious tops. Europe may have the palm for toy making, Saitz erland for the mechanical toys that are so intriously carved and painted wooden toys. France ous snap shot toys of this nature, trivial toys that make people laugh and have some quirkof humor for a mainspring. In New York this

movel and amusing these the better. The toymaker never had a better chance of custom
and a more liberal patronage to cafer to than
at present.

In ordinary toys women have also an important part. The setouching and complexion making of every doll made in the Brooklyn doll factory are done by women. They have taste and
delicacy of touch and, after the limbs and face of
the composition doll have been moulded, dried
and hardened, the polishing and smoothing off
are entrusted to women. Girls give the distinctive expressions and hody poses to every one of
these American made dolls. Dozens of girls
are employed in this process. Another dozen
or more put in the doll's eyes, and give her eyebrows and lashes; yet others supply her with
the blonde or brown ringlets, or the braids of
straight hair, so essential to good looks. And
others put on the baby cap and short fuzz that
will maks an infant of her to be dessed in long
clothes.

For seven years American women have been
working on these indestructible American dolls,
which are very nearly as handsome and as profitable to the dealers as the foreign made dolls.
Several women who, in the days of colored photograph portraits used to retouch at the photograph
galleries, putting in pink cheeks and coral lips
for a stipulated sum a dozen, now devote their
talent to making dolls' complexions. A good
many dolls are also made out and out at private
order in New York city by the matrons of the
dolls' hospitals. Most of these women are for
eigners, or of foreign extraction. They saw
doll making go forward under the home auspices
in the old country. At first in this country they
set out only to mend dolls, put on broken limits
and smashed noses, reset eyes, recuit hair or renew it. In order to do this mending effectively
they became practiced in doll anatony and in
the grades of composition moulding, refinishing,
&c. Uustomers find that they can make dolls
as well as mend them and the kindly inclined order
small children's dolls from them instead of from
the store

drawn in thread, or cotton that will not give up its dye. The hair is similarly contrived, and the doll is unique and has a distinct personality, even a vivacious expression. This dollmaker has regular orders from the managers of Christmas testivals in the orphan asylums and at the mission houses down town where needy mothers bring their babies for holiday cheer. The little ones have not been spoiled with an oversurplus of gifts and are willing to overlook dolly's lack of real locks and a peach-bloom complexion, or her mability to open and shut her eyes.

At a Massaciusetts factory, celebrated for its toy drums, tin soldiers and warships, girls and women are employed in the stamping and shaping department and those with artistic talent find steady work in the decorating room. Patriotic secrees and historic emblems are painted on the toys and some of the designs are original and of more than ordinary value. Less expert wielders of the paint brush touch up the tin trunce in the toy and some of the designs are original and of more than ordinary value. Less expert wielders of the paint brush touch up the tin trunce in the toy and some of the designation of the pasting of pasting is of use in the toy animal department, where the goods are prepared to sell for a dime each. And in the American factories devoted to wooden toys doll houses, doll furniture, wash much secured in the American factories devoted to wooden toys doll houses, doll furniture, wash much secured first are employed in the painting department, and several of the designers are women. Women are also busied with the packing. The little sets of pewer and crockery ware all have to be taked neatly to their especial cars and put up separately in special baxes, sets of special part and forts have to be assorted, kitchen utemils put up for the retailers uses and much accuracy and expertness practiced. A few years ago America did not think of making toys. Even now she cannot compete with the cheaply run factories of Europe, the greater portion of whose week i

# QUESTIONS FOR WOMEN.



## Woman Showing How Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound Cured Falling of the Uterus:

" DEAR MRS. PINKHAM - I see your advertisement in the papers in regard to treating woman's diseases, and would be grateful to you for your advice in my case. I am suffering from falling of womb, have pains in my sides and legs, in fact I ache all over. I am getting so weak I cannot stand on my feet much. I have the headache sometimes, and a choking, tight feel ng in my breast and throat. Have a paby seven months old. I hope to hear from ou soon, as I am in so much dist es. Mrs. J. R. Compton, Eggborns ille, Va., May 16, 1898.

your advice and I am n w on the sec-ond bottle of your Vegetable Com-pound, and I think it is going to cure I am, and have been, a great sufferer; but now I live in hopes of getting well."-Mrs. J. R. Compton, Egg-bornsville, Va., July 12, 1898.

If you were offered sure aid in time of trouble. would you put it aside and accept something of doubtful efficiency?

If you saw before you a strong and safe bridge leading to your goal, would you ignore it to try some insecure and tottering structure?

The answers to these questions are plain. You would, of course, hoose without hesitation what all evidence showed to be the safe thing, and you would risk nothing in useless experiments.

Why then do some women risk one of their most precious possessions - their health-in trying medicines of unknown value, which may even prove hurtful to them?

Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound has stood the test of years. It has the largest sale of any remedy for female ills in the world, and nothing could have given it this sale except its own merit.

Do not try experiments, buy what is known to be reliable. Mrs. Pinke-ham's Compound can do all that is claimed for it, and all statements in regard to it can be easily verified. For instance - Here are

## by Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound. DEAR MRS. PINKHAM-I am troubled

"DEAR MRS. PINKHAM - I followed using them I was feeling very bad. I used to go to the hospital, but it did me no good. Your remedies have done wonders for me."—Cora L. Payton, Ogontz, Pa. Feb. 25, 1899. me. If it does I will ever pra se it, for male troubles. My doctor wishes my ovaries taken out, but I shall never consent. Menstruation is irregular and my head has a tired feeling. Hos-

DEAR MRS. PINKHAM - Again I write to you. When I first wrote to you for advice in regard to my troubles I thought I could never get well again. After receiving your letter I followed your advice exactly, and thanks to you. I am cured of that dreadful disease. I cannot find words to express the good

Still More Proof that Nervous Prostration and Irregularity is Overcome Inflammation of the Bladder Cured by Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound. with irregular menstruation, and have begun the use of Lydia E. Pinkham's

"DEAR MRS. PINKHAM - I have used Vegetable Compound. Would like your advice. "-Cona L. Payton, May, your Vegetable Compound for female weakness and it has done wonders for me. I also had nervous prostration --was not able to look after my house-DEAH MRS. PINKHAM-I have taken work. After taking one bottle I began to improve, and am now better in every way, and feel like a different per-son. — Mrs. Della Keiser, Marienbetter not use your Sanative Wash also? Your medicine is helping me." ville, Pa., F bruary 22, 1809.

DEAR MRS. PINKHAM — I cannot praise your Vegetable Compound enough for the good it has done me. I suffered from inflammation of the bladder. I tried doctors, but obtained no relief. At last I decided to write to you and now, hankst your remedies, I am entrely cur d."—Mrs. K. S. Grady, 131 Union St., High Bridge, New York City, April 11, 1899.

All letters are received, opened, read and answered by women only, and no names are published or seen unless per-

three bottles of Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound, but I have a bad

CORA L. PAYTON, Ogontz, Pa., July 1,

"DEAR MRS. PINRHAM-I write to tell you of the benefit I have received

from the use of your remedies. Before

DEAR MRS. PINKHAM - I suffer fe-

pital treatment does me no good. I have five children and am 44 years old

Please advise what medicine to take

Philadelphia, Pa., Sept. 27, 1898.

Mus. E. H. Sonders, 437 N. 40th St.,

"DEAR MRS. PINKHAM - I followed

charge and write to ask if

The state of the s